



COVID-19

CDC has updated its guidance for people who are fully vaccinated. See [Recommendations for Fully Vaccinated People](#).

Health Equity in Action

Updated June 22, 2021

[Print](#)

Health equity is when everyone has the opportunity to be as healthy as possible. This page provides a snapshot of some of CDC's work with partners to support communities at higher risk for COVID-19. Learn more about how CDC promotes fair access to health during COVID-19 by exploring this page.



CDC is working with state, territorial, local, and tribal partners, and community-serving organizations, to ensure all public health actions address health disparities for all populations.

Populations and Place-Based Focus

During the COVID-19 response, CDC continues to focus its health equity efforts on these populations of focus. Visit the [CDC COVID-19 Response Health Equity Strategy | CDC](#) to learn more.

- Racial and ethnic minority populations
- People living in rural or frontier areas
- People experiencing homelessness
- Essential and frontline workers
- People with disabilities
- People with substance use disorders
- People who are justice-involved
- Non-US-born persons

COVID-19 Health Equity Projects

National Partnership for Preparedness and Rapid Response to Public Health Emergencies Among Agriculture Workers



Populations of focus: Migratory and non-US-born agriculture workers

Purpose: Build a sustainable and supportive partnership with organizations serving agriculture workers around the country to enhance CDC and organizations' capacity to address the ongoing COVID-19 threat, and other future infectious disease emergencies, in agricultural communities. [Learn more](#)

Partner: National Center for Farmworker Health

Reducing Racial and Ethnic Disparities in Adult Immunization



Populations of focus: Racial and ethnic minority groups (African American/Black, American Indian/Alaska Native, Asian American, Hispanic/Latinx American, and Native Hawaiian/other Pacific Islander adults)

Purpose: Build the evidence base of effective interventions for reducing racial and ethnic disparities in adult vaccination, as well as make an immediate impact on racial and ethnic disparities in COVID-19 and influenza vaccination rates, by funding national organizations to implement tailored education, outreach, and access strategies.

Partners: Asian and Pacific Islander American Health Forum, Association of American Indian Physicians, Association of Immunization Managers, CDC Foundation, Community Catalyst, Conference of National Black Churches, National Alliance for Hispanic Health, National Association of Community Health Centers, National Association of County and City Health Officials, National Council of Negro Women, National Council of Urban Indian Health, National Hispanic Medical Association, National Medical Association, National Minority Quality Forum, National Urban League, Northwest Portland Area Indian Health Board (and various Tribal Epidemiology Centers), UnidosUS, Urban Institute

Toolkit for People with Disabilities



Populations of focus: People with disabilities and care providers of people with disabilities

Purpose: Provide COVID-19 guidance and resources for people with disabilities and care providers. [Learn more](#)

Partners: FEMA, CDC Foundation, Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation, University of North Carolina Center for Literacy and Disability Studies, DeafLink, National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services.

Navajo Nation Water, Sanitation, and Hygiene (WASH)



Populations of focus: Members of the Navajo Nation who lack access to running water piped to the home

Objective: Improve Navajo Nation residents' access to potable water by 1) supporting an assessment of water access in all 110 Navajo Nation Chapters to identify those with the highest rates of COVID-19 and lowest rates of in-house water availability, 2) constructing water access points in 59 high-need areas, and 3) providing water use kits and health education to encourage use of water for prevention of COVID-19.

Partners: Indian Health Service Division of Sanitation Facilities Construction, Indian Health Service Navajo Area, Navajo Nation Division of Community Development, Dig Deep, Arizona State University Construction in Indian Country program

Afghanistan's Polio Program and Fight Against COVID-19



Populations of focus: Communities in Afghanistan experiencing wild poliovirus

Purpose: Make up for the missed polio vaccinations due to the temporary pause in vaccination campaigns during the early months of the COVID-19 pandemic – a necessary break that helped protect health workers and communities from unnecessary exposure during the pandemic. [Learn more](#) 

Partners: World Health Organization, United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund, Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation, Rotary International, Gavi

Hopi Tribe Support



Populations of focus: Hopi Nation (Arizona)

Purpose: Support the Hopi to improve COVID-19 case detection, strengthen epidemiological reporting, communicate safe practices, and encourage mitigation activities. [Learn more](#) 

Partner: The Hopi Tribe

Mask America Challenge



Populations of focus: Title 1 school districts and students

Purpose: Distribute cloth masks to 40 million students, teachers, and staff members at schools receiving federal Title I funding. [Learn more](#) 

Partners: CDC Community Interventions and Critical Populations Task Force, CDC Foundation, United Way, Hanes, and Business Roundtable

Optimizing COVID-19 Infection Prevention and Control in Clinical Practice



Populations of focus: Health care providers (HCP) serving populations at disproportionate risk of COVID-19

Purpose: Optimize dissemination, adoption, and implementation of COVID-19 infection prevention and control guidance among HCPs to reduce transmission. [Learn more](#)

Partner: Infectious Diseases Society of America

National Resource Center for Refugees, Immigrants, and Migrants



Populations of focus: Refugees, immigrants, and migrants (RIM) in the United States.

Purpose: Provide a centralized hub where state and local health departments working with RIM communities can access data-driven approaches for effective COVID-19 prevention. [Learn more](#)

Partner: University of Minnesota

Accessible Materials and Culturally Relevant Messages for People with Disabilities Project



Populations of focus: People with disabilities, caregivers of people with disabilities, and organizations serving people with disabilities

Purpose: Deliver essential COVID-19 information to people with disabilities, their families, and caregivers. The project helps to ensure that COVID-19 guidelines are not only accessible to people with disabilities, but also that they are culturally appropriate and relevant to the challenges people with disabilities face during emergency response situations such as COVID-19. [Learn more](#) 

Partners: CDC Foundation and Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation

Project Spotlight: CDC's Toolkit for People with Disabilities



Populations of focus: People with disabilities, care providers of people with disabilities

Partners: FEMA, CDC Foundation, Georgia Tech Center for Inclusive Design and Innovation, University of North Carolina Center for Literacy and Disability Studies, DeafLink, National Association of State Directors of Developmental Disabilities Services.

Purpose: Provide COVID-19 guidance and resources for people with disabilities and care providers.

Project website: [CDC Toolkit for People with Disabilities](#)

Description: People with disabilities are disproportionately affected by COVID-19 because of a variety of factors, including: 1) underlying health conditions that make them more likely to get severely ill, 2) increased likelihood of unavoidable close contact with care providers, 3) increased likelihood of living in a congregate setting, and 4) additional barriers to accessing health care, health information, and resources to follow COVID-19 prevention guidelines. There is a need for guidance and resources that are tailored for people with disabilities and their care providers. This project aims to compile and develop guidance and tools to help people with disabilities and those who provide services or care for them make decisions, protect their health, and communicate with their communities. The tools and guidance developed in this project reflect what CDC has learned about the needs of people with disabilities and care providers from partners and listening sessions, projects, and research efforts.

Early impact:

- Developed and launched the [CDC Toolkit for People with Disabilities](#) web page.
- Utilized feedback from partners indicating a need for more information geared toward people with disabilities related to vaccine access, accessible vaccination sites, and accessible communications products/web resources to develop web content, fact sheets and one-pagers, scheduling language, and a promising practices document on vaccination access for people who have challenges leaving their home.
- Began the integration of information related to people with disabilities as well as social media and web-based graphics that reflect varying disabilities throughout the CDC sites instead of just on disability-related webpages.

Additional Resources

CDC has COVID-19 resources for these Health Equity populations of focus

More on Health Equity

- [A Guide for Community Partners: Increasing COVID-19 Vaccine Uptake Among Members of Racial and Ethnic Minority Communities pdf icon](#)  [1.7 MB, 22 Pages]
 - [Guía para los colaboradores de la comunidad](#)  [2.8 MB, 23 páginas]
- [CDC COVID-19 Response Health Equity Strategy](#)
- [COVID-19 Vaccine Equity: Best Practices for Community and Faith-Based Organizations](#)  [332 KB, 2 Pages]
- [Expanding COVID-19 Vaccine Distribution to Primary Care Providers to Address Disparities in Immunization pdf icon](#)  [416 KB, 5 Pages]
- [Guide for Awardees to Increase Vaccine Uptake pdf icon](#)  [688 KB, 14 Pages]
- [Health Equity and Disparities](#)
- [Health Equity Considerations & Racial and Ethnic Minority Groups](#)
- [Minority Health](#)
- [Racism and Health](#)
- [Social Determinants of Health](#)
- [Social Vulnerability Index](#)
- [What We Can Do to Promote Health Equity](#)

Featured Webinars

- [CDC COCA call: Telehealth & Health Equity: Considerations for Addressing Health Disparities during the COVID-19 Pandemic \(September 15, 2020\)](#)
- [COVID-19 Response: Promising Practices in Health Equity II \(July 29, 2020\)](#)
- [Promising Practices in Health Equity \(June 2, 2020\)](#)

Communications

- [I Wear a Mask Because video](#) (ASL versions available)
- [Print Resources](#) (Posters, guides, checklists)
- [Public Service Announcements](#)
- [Resources for Community Health Workers, Community Health Representatives, and Promotores de la Salud](#)
- [Resources for Disproportionately Affected Communities](#)
- [Toolkits](#) (including toolkits for older adults and people at higher risk, tribal communities, worker safety and support, shared and congregate housing, people with disabilities, people experiencing homelessness, correctional and detention facilities, and more).

External Resources

- [National CLAS Standards](#)  (HHS)
- [We Can Do This](#)  campaign (HHS)
- [You Will See Me](#)  campaign (Ad Council)

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